

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached four (4) new sheets of drawings include Figs. 1-8. The new figures illustrate the invention as requested by the Examiner. No new matter is believed added by these drawings.

Attachment: New Drawing Sheets (4)

REMARKS

The office action of December 13, 2005, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that the Examiner requires drawings illustrating the invention.

Claims 3, 5 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-8, 11-14 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Simpson et al.

Claims 9, 10, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Simpson et al.

In connection with the Examiner's requirement for drawings, applicant has added new Figs. 1-8. The specification has been amended to refer to the drawings and to include the reference numerals found in the figures. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by the new drawings or the changes to the specification.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has canceled claims 1-17 and added new claims 18-48.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In drafting the new set of claims applicant has taken into consideration the points of indefiniteness raised by the Examiner relative to canceled claims 3, 5 and 17

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 3, 5 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions and methods disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the reference, it can be seen that the patent to Simpson et al. discloses a lubricated plastic impregnated aramid fiber rope. Simpson et al. do not disclose a construction having a fixed connection between the outer casing and the strands

in first contact regions, as in the presently claimed invention. Furthermore, Simpson et al. do not disclose an intermediate casing. There is no teaching by Simpson et al. of how to lubricate contact regions within the cable. Additionally, it would not be obvious to those skilled in the art to selectively lubricate different contact regions within a complex cable structure based upon the teachings of Simpson et al. Instead, Simpson et al. teach a commonly used way of lubricating strands randomly by solely applying lubricant on the surface of the strands. Thus, Simpson et al. do not disclose or teach the presently claimed invention.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-8, 11-14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and the rejection of claims 9, 10, 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the above-discussed reference are overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 06-2143.

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Respectfully submitted,

By



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 13, 2006.

By:


Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: March 13, 2006